

CONNECTION

AN ITAWAMBA COMMUNITY COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND FOUNDATION PUBLICATION | SPRING 2023





From the

PRESIDENT

We at Itawamba Community College appreciate the opportunity to reconnect with both alumni and friends through each issue of the Connection magazine.

As you read this, the 2022 fall semester is a memory. The pages of this magazine will provide a glimpse at some of those important events at the College as well as an opportunity to “catch up” with some of our alumni. In the past few months, as we continue to move past the pandemic and its widespread impact on the college and our region, we formally opened the extraordinary Magnolia Hall, experienced an enrollment increase and provided the

BEST educational experiences for thousands of individuals in our district and beyond.

The College is extremely grateful to the donors who are featured in this magazine and many others whose stories we will share in upcoming editions. The success of Itawamba Community College is directly linked to the success of its Foundation. No contribution is too small.

We urge you to join the Alumni Association so that we can continue our valuable connection with you because your success is our success.

Your involvement at ICC is extremely important to us. We hope to hear from you or see you soon!

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CONNECTION

SPRING 2023

Alumni and Foundation
Itawamba Community College
602 West Hill Street
Fulton, Mississippi 38843
662.862.8039
www.iccms.edu

Editorial Staff

Tilda Bouchillon
Administrative Assistant for Alumni and Foundation

Tyler Camp
Chief of Staff/Special Assistant to the President

Nina Strother
Director of Marketing and Community Engagement

Donna Thomas
Director of Communications

Michael Upton
Director of Advancement

Contributors
C.J. Adams
Marketing Specialist

Lee Adams
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Maggie Caldwell
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Adam Gore
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Connection magazine is distributed free of charge to alumni and friends of the College.

Send change of address notification to
ICC Alumni and Foundation,
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From the FOUNDATION



FOUNDATION CHAIR
BUDDY MONTGOMERY

2022 is now a memory, and we have entered into 2023 with joy, hope and expectation of what the new year will bring.

On September 1, 1948, visionaries opened Itawamba Junior College on a “shoestring budget” on a cottonfield in Fulton. Veterans labor and second-hand lumber from Camp McCain were used to construct many of the first buildings. During the first few years because of limited funds, the president, dean and registrar all taught classes.

Just imagine what those visionaries would think about Itawamba Community College today!

As we celebrate the 75th anniversary of IJC/ICC, which has provided the BEST START for thousands upon thousands of individuals in our area and beyond, we remember its impact on our lives and on those of our neighbors and friends.

During 2022, ICC opened Magnolia Hall, a state-of-the-art residential facility with customizable halls/wings for separated male and female occupancy. During the first year of operation, two dormitories with a capacity of 45 served both high school and junior college students.

Today’s extraordinary faculty teach in state-of-the-art facilities at three locations. Administrators continue to be visionaries, positioning Itawamba Community College as one of the best in the nation, as documented by the Aspen Institute.

As president of the Itawamba Community College Foundation Board, I encourage you to continue to assist the college that gave us our BEST START! As a Foundation, we are dedicated to making education affordable and accessible to all community members. Invest in ICC! Our investment today is an investment in the future of our students. Please join me.

Want to honor your graduate?
Honor the memory of a loved one?
Need a unique gift?

PURCHASE YOUR WALK OF MEMORIES

Brick

INCLUDE YOUR OWN
SPECIAL MESSAGE!
EMAIL FOUNDATION@CCMS.EDU



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#75yearsofthebest

Itawamba Community College’s seventy-fifth anniversary celebration is underway with several events planned to commemorate the historical occasion of its opening as Itawamba Junior College on September 1, 1948, with meager beginnings. Used and scrap lumber constructed

the buildings, which sprang from a cottonfield in Fulton.

Among the events in the celebration include an official announcement during the 2022 fall convocation last August with t-shirts and mugs for members of the ICC family, banners in front of the David C. Cole Student Services Building on the Fulton

Campus and the Academic and Student Center on the Tupelo Campus, a Diamond Dance for students and throwback posts on social media throughout the year. A gala next fall will end the yearlong celebration.

Guyton-Dzikielewski Education

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

In honor of their commitment to providing educational opportunities for their children, Mr. and Mrs. E.B. (Bill) Guyton have been memorialized with the creation of the Guyton-Dzikielewski Education Endowed Scholarship.

“My parents’ goal in life was to provide a college education for their three children,” said their daughter Wanda Dzikielewski. “Neither of them had such an opportunity growing up in the 1920s and ‘30s. They set an example for us by working hard and encouraging us to develop that same strong work ethic. They taught us respect for all, love for God and country and to do no less than our best in whatever we did.”

Since all three of the Guyton children selected the teaching profession, a scholarship for Itawamba Community College students choosing education as their major was the perfect way to honor their parents.

“This is a tribute to their hard work and sacrifices to help us make a life that would be fulfilling to us,” Dzikielewski said. “ICC provided us with two years of college courses that made finishing our bachelor’s degrees in education less stressful. All three of us were in college at the same time since we were very close in age. A college education in the 1960s was expensive then. As a result of attending ICC, we had no need for loans to help us get through college.”

All three children attended ICC for two years before transferring to Ole Miss where they

each received bachelor’s and master’s degrees in education. Wanda also earned the Specialist of Education degree from the University of Tennessee and married a teacher, Dr. Joseph Dzikielewski. She invested 38 years teaching English in Mississippi, Alabama and Tennessee and worked as the Secondary Curriculum Coordinator for Lee County Schools. Her brother, Billy, worked for 27½ years as a fifth and sixth grade teacher and Technology Discovery teacher in the Nettleton and Mooreville schools. Her sister, Sylvia, was a first and second grade teacher at Nettleton Primary School for 32 years. Sylvia is a charter member of Phi Theta Kappa at ICC.

Recipients of the Guyton-Dzikielewski Education Endowed Scholarship will be full-time students from one of the five counties in the Itawamba Community College service area and sophomores who are majoring in education. Applicants must have and maintain a 3.25 grade point average. Potential for success, financial need and a desire to become a contributing member of the educational professional society will be considered in the selection process.

For more information on scholarships or to contribute to the Guyton-Dzikielewski Education Endowed Scholarship, contact Michael Upton, director of advancement, 662.862.8035 or maupton@iccms.edu.





Jeanette Carr-Winkler

CARING AWARD ENDOWMENT

Jeanette Carr-Winkler became a member of Itawamba Community College's Associate Degree Nursing faculty in 1983, and she retired 23 years later at the age of 80.

Carr-Winkler was a charge nurse at the North Mississippi Medical Center before joining the ICC family. She started nursing school at the age of 47, a trait that ran in her family since her mother enrolled when she was 50. Her son, Stennis, was also a member of ICC's family as a student, attending on a football scholarship.

The same year she retired, the Jeanette Carr-Winkler Caring award was established to honor her legacy at ICC. It is given to a graduating sophomore nursing student who exemplifies nursing, consistently demonstrates professionalism and serves as a mentor to other students. The recipient is selected by a committee of the Associate Degree Nursing faculty.

Dr. Mary Fleming-Parker, Carr-Winkler's colleague on the AD Nursing faculty, knew and appreciated her on several levels. "She taught me nursing and then we taught together for several years when I came back to ICC in 1999. I loved teaching with her. She was such a fine lady."

Carr-Winkler died in 2016, but her legacy lives on and is continuing to touch the lives of those in the profession she loved. Her daughter, Janet Watson, wanted to honor her mother and help support ICC nursing students, so she created an endowment through the ICC Foundation, Inc. that will provide a financial stipend to accompany the Caring Award named in her honor. Recipients can use these funds for financial assistance with the costs that nursing students incur after graduation, including exams and licensure.

"Mom loved this place and the award that was named for her," Watson said. "I didn't want it to get lost. I really wanted people to remember her name. She expected students to act and dress professionally. She also expected them to be at their clinicals early to read charts. She took it very personally that if the students made a mistake, that she was responsible."

Watson recounted numerous experiences in meeting nurses who were trained by her mother in considering how she could assist future ICC nursing students. She realized it would be beneficial to support those who are entering the workforce.

Dr. Dana Walker, Associate Degree Nursing program director, reinforced the challenges new nursing graduates face. "There at the end of the program they have so much expense including NCLEX (exam), review courses, background checks and other items."

Because of the generosity of Janet Watson through this endowment, future Associate Degree Nursing students who receive the Jeanette Carr-Winkler Caring Award will not only remember her mother's name, but they can overcome financial challenges as they begin their careers in nursing.

Foundation scholarships are provided and funded for ICC students by individuals, businesses, industries or organizations.

For more information on endowments or to contribute to the Jeanette Carr-Winkler Endowment, contact Michael Upton, director of advancement, 662.862.8035 or maupton@iccms.edu.

Kermit and Mary Anna McFerrin

MEMORIAL ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

A love story that began at Itawamba Agricultural High School in the 1950s and continued at Itawamba Junior College has evolved into a scholarship in honor of Kermit and Mary Anna McFerrin to help future students attend the school that meant so much to them.

Pamela McFerrin Thompson, Cathy McFerrin and Jack McFerrin, all of whom graduated from IJC, established the Kermit and Mary Anna McFerrin Memorial Endowed Scholarship in honor of their parents, both proud IJC alumni. Kermit was a member of the first graduating class in 1950, where he was a member of both the basketball and tennis teams. Mary Anna followed and served as freshman class reporter in 1951. They both attended Mississippi State University where Kermit earned his bachelor's degree in business administration.

After Kermit's service in the U.S. Army, the couple settled in his hometown of Mantachie, where they raised a loving family, operated the family business and served others through their church and other community organizations.

The McFerrin family is truly a legacy story for Itawamba Community College, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year.

"Mother and Daddy met while attending Itawamba Agricultural High School," according to Thompson. "Daddy graduated from IAHS in 1948, and Mother graduated in 1950. At the time, Mantachie students had to transition to IAHS because Mantachie didn't have all 12 grades."

Thompson said that the McFerrins treasured the friendships they made at IJC and stayed in close contact with many classmates throughout the years. "The IJC reunions were always a highlight for them. IJC made a college education available and affordable to many in our area and they are both very grateful to have been a part of the early history of the college."

"Daddy loved Mantachie and Itawamba County," said daughter Cathy. "He was an encourager. Even though he didn't think he was better, he knew the importance of being better and doing better. He encouraged people to just attend IJC/ICC for one semester. He wanted them to experience college life even if they didn't obtain a degree." She described her father as progressive, which is evident through Kermit's helping obtain water and natural gas systems for Mantachie, serving on boards and being a member of the Lions Club. "That is also why he allowed Mantachie High School to use our property adjacent to the school for educational purposes. He was listening and learning until his death. He knew the value of an education and learning new things. Mother felt the same way but wasn't as vocal as Daddy."

Community and church were both very important to the McFerrins. Kermit was a charter member of the Mantachie Lions Club, and Mary Anna, the Mantachie Pilot Club. Both served in various capacities in those organizations, including president. They were also longtime members of the First Baptist Church of



Mantachie where both were active in various ministries. Kermit was a Sunday school teacher, deacon and deacon chairman, and Mary Anna served as the church organist for many years and was involved in the Women's Missionary Union.

The McFerrins' love for

each other and their children will live on in the impact that the scholarship in their honor will have on students from Mantachie and Itawamba County for years to come, truly a legacy story.

Foundation scholarships are provided and funded for ICC students by individuals,

businesses, industries or organizations. For more information on scholarship endowment or to contribute to the Kermit and Mary Anna McFerrin Memorial Endowed Scholarship, contact Michael Upton, director of advancement, 662.862.8035 or maupton@iccms.edu.

2022-2023 Recipients FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS



W.O. BENJAMIN MEMORIAL

PAYTON BAILEY



NICK SABINE

ALEX BENNETT



MERYL TREE MEMORIAL

CHAD BISHOP



TOMMY AND NATALIE
KLINE

ALLISON BLANSETT



ROBERT LODEN

ELON BRAXTON



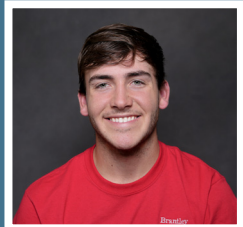
PHILLIP A. SHEFFIELD
MEMORIAL

ALISHEA BROWN



LINDA KAY GILREATH

ANDREA BROWN



MISSISSIPPI
MANUFACTURERS
ASSOCIATION
BRANTLEY BROWN



A.J. PITTS
MEMORIAL

ELLA BROWNING



WALMART

HAYDEN CAMPBELL



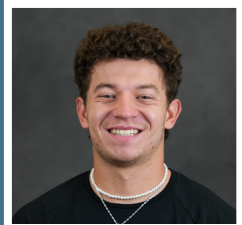
LINDA KAY GILREATH

NATASHA CAMPBELL



SUSAN E. LODEN
MEMORIAL

BAILEE CAPLES



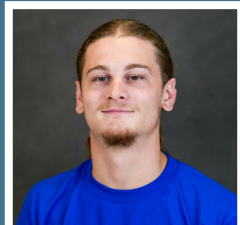
CHRIS RATLIFF MEMORIAL

DREW CAPOBIANCO

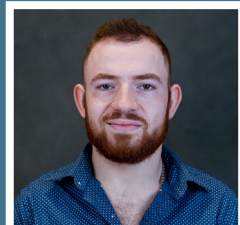


DR. MARSHALL E. HOLLIS
ENDOWED PHARMACY

CADEN CATES



DOROTHY D. AND GEORGE
H. RUFF FOUNDATION
CAREER EDUCATION
MATTHEW CATES



EDGAR IRWIN MOORE
AND RUTH MOORE AND
R. T. (MICKEY) WEST

TYLER CHASE



ANSON AVEN MEMORIAL

SETH CLARK



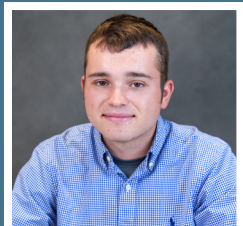
JIMMIE UVAL AND HILDA CRANE
AND W.B. (BRUCE) AND
PEGGY DAVIS

EMILY CLOWERS



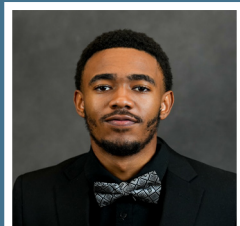
CHRIS HAYDEN MEMORIAL

CONNER COKER



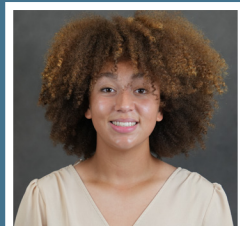
EMILY LODEN JONES
FORESTRY ANNUAL

KELL COKER



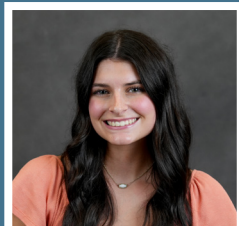
LINDA KAY GILREATH

ELIJAH COLEMAN



HONORABLE
SHARION AYCOCK

MADISON COPELAND



KELLY WADE PRESTAGE
MEMORIAL AND
STANLEY D. MOSES
CAMRON COWART

TAYLOR FORD



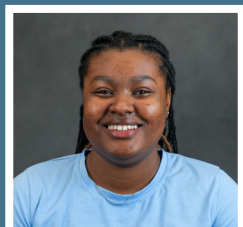
CHRISTINE MCCOY
SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY
MEMORIAL
MAKAYLA DOUGLAS

BREIA FOSTER



LINDA KAY GILREATH

ANGELIA DUKE



GEORGE W. OWENS AND
MAE H. OWENS

JANIYAH EDGESTON



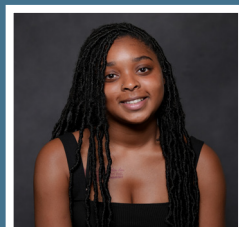
LINDA KAY GILREATH

MARLEY EDWARDS



DAN DIXON MEMORIAL
DIESEL TECHNOLOGY

CADE ELLISON



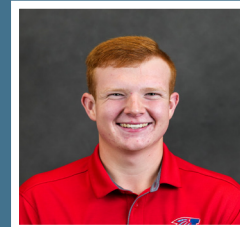
MICHAEL D. BOWENS

TAYLOR FORD



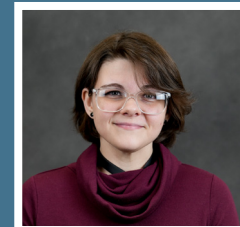
MOUNCE FAMILY
EXCELLENCE IN
HEALTHCARE

BREIA FOSTER



WILSON L. AND WANDA
HEERING MEMORIAL

CONNOR FOSTER



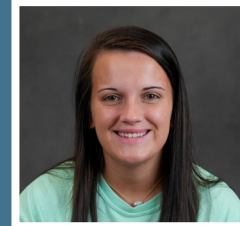
ERNEST AND JAMIE JOYNER
ADULT LEARNER

CHELSEA FRIES



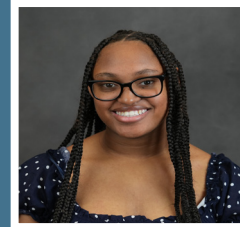
LINDA KAY GILREATH

DORIEN GRIFFIN



NORTH MISSISSIPPI
EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

LEXI GREEN



W.B. (BRUCE) AND PEGGY
DAVIS

TYTITANA HARRIS



TROY YORK CRUBAUGH
MEMORIAL

SOPHIE HARRISON



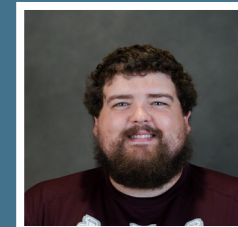
LINDA KAY GILREATH

KALEY GHOLSTON



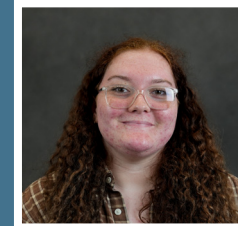
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SETH GUIN



LINDA KAY GILREATH

TYLER GILL



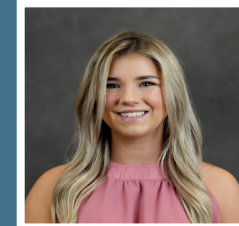
KERMIT AND MARY ANNA
MCFERRIN MEMORIAL

TERRI GUIN



LINDA KAY GILREATH

LANDON GLOVER



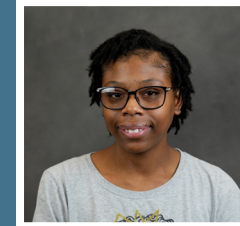
DOROTHY W. GIBBS
MEMORIAL

ALYSSA HAIRE



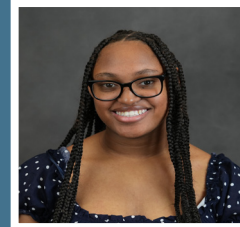
DANA GRISSOM COCKRELL
MEMORIAL

KELCIE GRAHAM



LINDA KAY GILREATH

DEASIA HAMPTON



W.B. (BRUCE) AND PEGGY
DAVIS

TYTITANA HARRIS



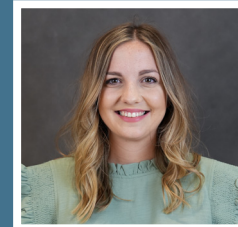
TROY YORK CRUBAUGH
MEMORIAL

SOPHIE HARRISON



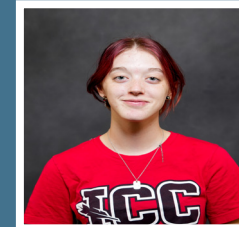
DONALD A. BAKER

TAYLOR HARRISON



HERRICK FOUNDATION

MEGAN HAYWOOD



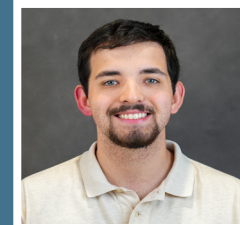
ALVIN ASHMORE
MEMORIAL ENDOWED
PHARMACY

AIZLYNN HERBERT



GILMORE FOUNDATION
HEALTHCARE

CASSIDY HERREN



LINDA KAY GILREATH

GABRIEL HESTER



EMILY HALL MEMORIAL
AND THE NEXT LEVEL

WHITLEY HILL



TIM BOWENS ENDOWED
SCHOLARSHIP FOR
EXCELLENCE

MAKAYLA HODGES



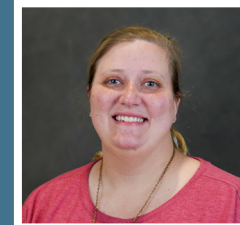
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MISSISSIPPI ANNUAL

THOMAS HOLCOMB



DAVID AND BETTY COLE

CAROLINE HOLLOWAY



ERNEST AND JAMIE
JOYNER ADULT LEARNER
AND MARGARET GURLEY
LODEN MEMORIAL

KASEY HOMAN



JENNIE WITT MOUNCE
ADULT LEARNER

LAKEN HOOD



GENE M. TILGHMAN
"GONE FISHING"

CHANDLER HOWELL



CHARLIE AND TERRY
MCCARTHY AND DR. BILLY
T. AND BARBARA COLLUM
ENDOWED

CRISTY HURD



KAYLA MURPHREE BLACK
AND LINDA KAY GILREATH

LAUREN IVY



BILLY SPIGNER

LYDIA JEFICOAT



LINDA KAY GILREATH

KINNEDY JOHNSON



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LAURA JOHNSON



WINFORD JUNIOR ROGERS

MADISON JONES



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WHEELER MEMORIAL

PRESTON KNIGHT



D.D. NICOLAU FOR THE
RUFF FOUNDATION
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JAKE LAUDERDALE



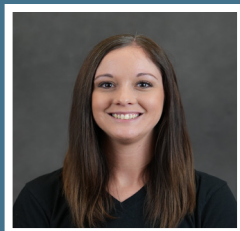
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LORI LEACHMAN



JOY L. TOMLINSON
MEMORIAL

CASSIDY LITTLE



LINDA KAY GILREATH

TIFFANY LITTLE



PAT MILES MEMORIAL

WESLEIGH LOAGUE



W.E. BOGGS

JOHN LONG



PRYORMORROW

ALEXA MACKEY



LINDA KAY GILREATH

ANNA MALDONADO



ADAM N. WAGES
MEMORIAL

JACE RUSSELL



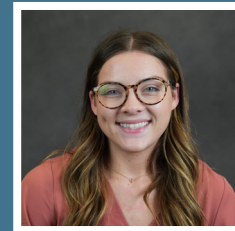
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MEMORIAL

JULIANA SCOTT



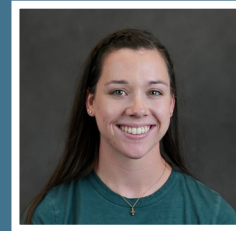
MARANDA DARLENE RAY
LITTLE MEMORIAL

JADE SENTER



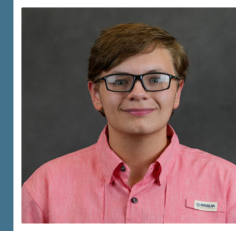
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MEMORIAL

KATIE SHEFFIELD



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CAROLYN FRANKS
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SHARICKA MARTIN



BILLY AND EDNA
FISHER TODD

ADELIN MATHIS



TWILA BROWN MEMORIAL

EMMA MCCOLLUM



ANN STUBBLEFIELD GIBBS

SYDNEY MCKEE



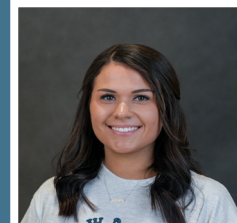
SUZANNE SUMMERFORD

GRACE MCMULLAN



PEARL MARKHAM BURCH
MEMORIAL

JACKIE SUN



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SHELBY TANNER



JOHN AND BETH
CLEVELAND

CLAY TERRY



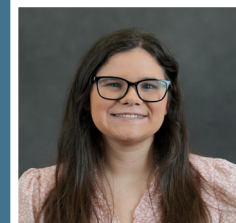
LINDA KAY GILREATH

ALESHA TURNER



AT&T ENDOWED

RANDY TZIB



GUYTON-DZIKIELEWSKI
EDUCATION

ABIGAIL VANN



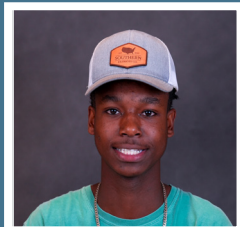
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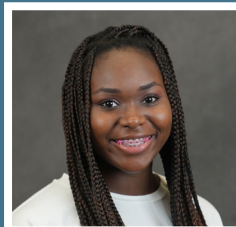
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EDUCATION

CHLOE MINICH



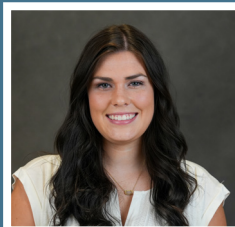
K.C. COOPER

LEKEDRIC MOORE



JOHNNY AND BESSIE LYNN
CRANE

MARLY MOORE



DR. JOSEPH F.
DZIKIELEWSKI MEMORIAL
NURSING

MOLLIE MOORE



CHRISTOPHER NEIL
THOMAS MEMORIAL

JONATHAN MORALES



LINDA KAY GILREATH

AMANDA WALTON



ELI KENT MEMORIAL

MADALYN WALTON



OUIDA KENNEDY
MCDANIEL ACADEMIC

KAMILAH WARE



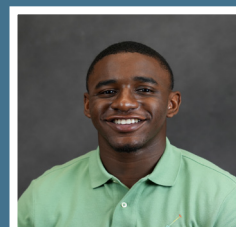
LINDA KAY GILREATH

BEN WELLS



DEXTER DIGBY ANNUAL

TYLER WHITAKER



LINDA KAY GILREATH

WILLIAM WHITE



JO AND TRAVIS STAUB

COURTNEY MORAN



MIKE AND MARCIA EATON

JAZMINE MORENO



THE REV. DR. ROY H. AND
DORIS FINNEY RYAN

DAMIEN MURPHY



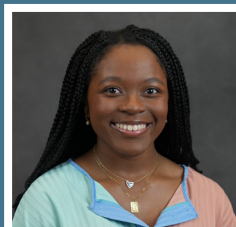
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MICHEAL NIX



EMILY W. HORNE ANNUAL

BROOKLYN OWEN



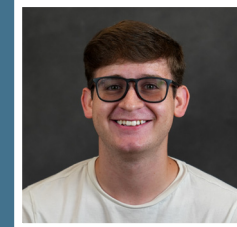
ICC FULTON CAMPUS
FACULTY AND STAFF
ASSOCIATION

JODI PARKS



JON D. SHELTON AND JASON
L. SHELTON AND LINDA KAY
GILREATH

ELIZABETH
WIGGINGTON-JOHNS



THOMAS GRIFFITH
MEMORIAL

KALEB WILKINSON



LINDA KAY GILREATH

BRAD WILLIAMS



J.T. CRABB MEMORIAL

LUCAS WILLIAMS



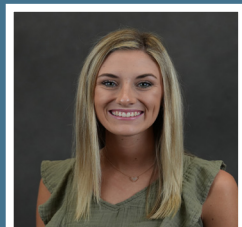
QUAIL UNLIMITED ANNUAL
AND SHERRY SENTER
STUBBLEFIELD AND NANCY
SENER PRESLEY

KARLEY
WOOTEN-WEEKS



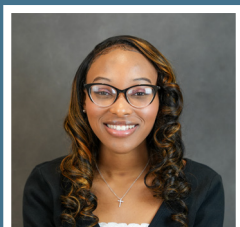
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PATRICK ZYLA



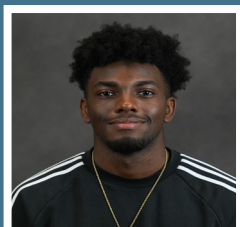
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EMILY PATE



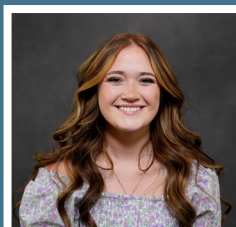
DIXIE MEDLIN MEMORIAL

TANIYA PATTERSON



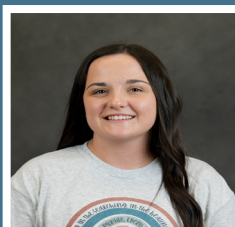
BILLY SPIGNER MEMORIAL

AHMAD PATTON-BEY



BONNIE RUTH GIBBS
OWINGS MEMORIAL

MADISON PAUL



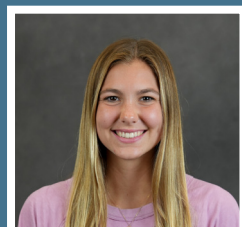
WINFORD JUNIOR ROGERS

BAILEY PETTIGO



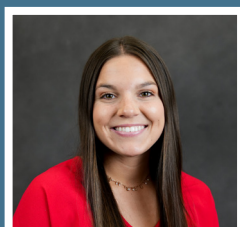
A.J. PITTS ANNUAL
MEMORIAL

ELLA PITTS



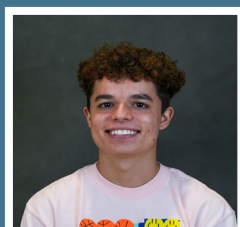
AT&T ENDOWED

ADDISON PLETZKE



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KAITLYN PLUNKETT



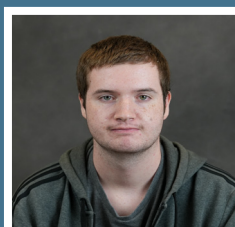
K.C. COOPER

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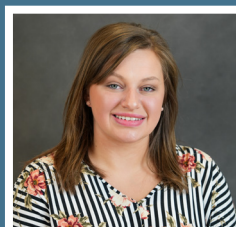
BILLY WHEELER
MEMORIAL

SHELBY RAZER



DR. THOMAS AND
MARTHA BOURLAND
BURCH

STEWART RISNER



MISSISSIPPI RETIRED
TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

EVALENA RUSSELL

Donor Dinner 2022



JENNIFER MCCOY, TONYA VAUGHN,
MAKAYLA DOUGLAS AND DR. JAY ALLEN



COREY LEE, GUEST SPEAKER



ADLENE BOWENS, MICAH BOWENS, MYRA
BOWENS, MICHAEL BOWENS, MAKAYLA
HODGES AND DR. JAY ALLEN

From the ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Alumni Association President
JOHN LEE LYLES

Happy New Year!

With the beginning of 2023 and the year-long commemoration of Itawamba Community College's 75th anniversary, we continue to celebrate IJC/ICC, which has played a significant role in our lives.

Many of our alumni met their life partners, cultivated lifelong friendships and continue to share lasting memories with their classmates.

What better way to start the new year by joining Itawamba Community College's Alumni Association. Hundreds of new members are taking advantage of the opportunity to reconnect with ICC, and we hope that you will, too!

Not only will you connect with the BEST community college, you'll also be among the first to know about exciting activities and events.

In addition, we need your assistance in communicating our message to alumni who are not receiving our publications or announcements. We would like to update their information in our database to ensure that they receive future mailings. It would also be great to have your current email address on file, so please send to alumni@iccms.edu.

And with this new year, we hope that one of your resolutions will be to visit our college, whether to attend a special activity or event or just to stop by to say "hello!"

It's an honor to begin my two-year term as president this year, and if you have suggestions at any time, please feel free to contact me or Director of Advancement Michael Upton at 662.862.8035 or maupton@iccms.edu.

ALUMNI BOARD

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President-Elect

Secretary

Immediate Past President

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Bobby Mooneyham

Itawamba County

Joey Cox
Dan McCrimon

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Richard Davis
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Noel McWhirter
Bill Miles
Dr. Amanda Summers
Gary Walker



JOIN THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Today

Active membership in the ICC Alumni Association enables you to contribute to almost every part of the college while keeping alumni and friends connected to ICC. In return, the Association provides you with a host of benefits, including:

Subscription to Connection magazine

Opportunities to have your class notes, births and weddings in Connection

ICC Alumni Association auto decal

Free admission to ICC home sporting events

Discounts at the ICC Bookstores

Discounted membership to the ICC Fitness Center

Use of the ICC Libraries and their resources

Making a difference at ICC by supporting your alma mater.

For more information on the ICC Alumni Association or for the membership application, visit www.iccms.edu/Alumni

ICC's First Generation



Not only was August 10 convocation for the 2022 fall semester, it was the start of ICC's BIG 75th anniversary celebration.

What better way to announce the event than a visit from two members of the first class!

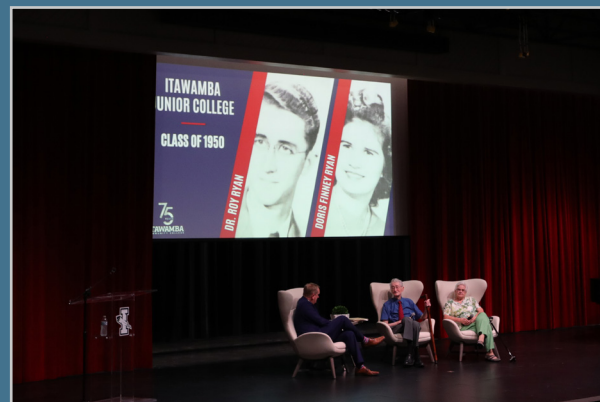
The Rev. Roy and Doris Finney Ryan spent a few minutes on the stage with ICC President Dr. Jay Allen reminiscing about IJC.

Roy said that he had been in high school in Fulton for four years, so it was an easy transition for him to IJC, which opened its doors on September 1, 1948 with 115 students, some of whom were veterans. Among the residents of the other two counties, Lee and Monroe, was now his wife, the former Doris Finney.

Like the Ryans' marriage, it was the start of "something really special." To 92-year-old Roy, now-ICC has "come a long

way" although the basics of its founding remain the same: friendly environment, opportunity for an education, affordable and easy to transfer. "It was a wonderful start," the Ryans agreed.

To close their special visit some 75 years after their story began, Allen presented both of the Ryans with keys to now-Itawamba Community College, the first individuals ever to receive such an honor. With the key presentation, however, Allen said that he was unsure the doors they would open. In 2023, the commemorative keys are evidence of the longevity of the Ryans' relationship which began at Itawamba Junior College, where the BEST have started for 75 years.



President's 2022



Food, fun and visiting were on the menu for the annual President's Tailgate, sponsored by the ICC Alumni Association, Sept. 8, in The Grove on the Fulton Campus prior to the Indians' first home football game.

TAILGATE

Itawamba Community College honored its 2022 Alumnus of the Year, Distinguished Service award recipient and Athletic Hall of Fame inductees during Homecoming activities, Oct. 6, at the Fulton Campus.

The honorees included Dr. C.K. "Dick" White, Alumnus of the Year; Miss. Rep. Donnie Bell, Distinguished Service award; and David Duke and Marty Cooper, Athletic Hall of Fame.

Homecoming week featured an array of student activities including cookouts, pep rallies, an open mic night, ice cream and Funky Family Feud.

Queen Anna Maldonado and her court (Delaysia Cousins, Emma Grace Allen, Madison White, Claire Caldwell, Riley Ray, Chloe Minich, Emily Pate and Mary Morgan Lyle) were introduced at a mid-day pep rally, Oct. 6, followed by a ribbon cutting for the Carrie Ball-Williamson Recreational Center, unveiling of the Nanci Gray Court in the Davis Event Center and special presentations to the honorees and a Homecoming football victory.



2022 Homecoming





2022 *Alumnus* **OF THE YEAR** *Dr. C.K. "Dick" White*

Dr. C.K. "Dick" White of Tupelo is a graduate of Itawamba Agricultural High School and from 1969-71 attended IJC, where he was a member of the baseball team. In 2020, he retired as chief medical officer of the North Mississippi Medical Center. From 2018-20, he also served as interim chief quality and safety medical officer for North Mississippi Health Services, and since 2016, executive board member of Connected Care Partners CIN. He has an extensive list of honors and awards, including NMMC Surgeon of the Year and IAHS Alumnus of the Year.

Dr. White is a member of numerous professional organizations and serves on the boards of several community organizations, including Antone Tannehill Good Samaritan Free Clinic, CREATE, Community Development Foundation, Health Care Foundation of North Mississippi,

BancorpSouth and Tupelo Aquatic Club – Shockwave Aquatics. He is an active member of the Tupelo First United Methodist Church.

His educational background also includes the bachelor's degree from the University of Mississippi; master's degree and doctor of medicine, residency-obstetrics/gynecology and Chief Administrative Resident, all at the University of Mississippi School of Medicine.

He and his wife, Elsie, have two children, Shelley Miller (Jason) and Tracy Peters (Silas) and five grandchildren.



Athletic HALL OF FAME



Marty Cooper of Fulton served as the head basketball coach at ICC from 1998-2012 before he retired from coaching and continued as a faculty member. He was also the first to lead his team on the court of the Davis Event Center.

He coached the Indians to four league titles and won the league, state and region in 2008, which was ICC's first in more than 35 years. Cooper is the only coach in ICC's history to take a team to the national tournament, and he did it three times (2002, 2007, 2008). He was named MACJC Coach of the Year in 2008 and NJCAA Region 23 Coach of the Year

three times.

Cooper's overall community college record was 368-219. He also coached at East Central Community College. His cumulative coaching record is 447-233.

He is currently boys' basketball coach at Belgreen, Ala. where his teams have been area champions (three years), region champions in 2021 and state runner-up in 2021, the first team in school history to accomplish this level since 1994. He and his wife, Jennifer, who served as his assistant coach at both ICC and East Central, have one daughter, McKenzie.



David Duke, who attended Itawamba Junior College for two years beginning in 1983, was an integral part of the College's first state tennis title since the program began in 1974.

He competed both years in the NJCAA championships in Ocala, Florida and continued his tennis career at Mississippi College where he played for two years. During his freshman year at IJC, he won the no. 2 singles title, and as a sophomore, the no. 2 singles title and with a partner, the no. 1 doubles

title. Since 1994, he has been a teacher, most recently at Clinton Junior High School since 2001, and he coached the tennis team at Clinton High School from 2007-2019.

He is married to Misty, a seventh grade ELL and Reading Excel teacher at Clinton Junior High School. He has one son, Chandler, an accountant at Waring Oil in Vicksburg. He is the son of David and Carole Duke of West Point.

Building Legacies

Coaching legend Nanci Gray retired from Itawamba Community College in 2019 after 40 years in basketball, including junior high, high school and community college.

And among the extensive list of honors throughout that spectacular career include that she was the first coach on what is now the Nanci Gray Court in Itawamba Community College's Davis Event Center.

On October 6, the court was named and dedicated in honor of Gray, who as a student-athlete was part of the 1975 revitalized women's basketball team which won the MACJC State Championship and participated in the NJCAA National Tournament. She was also named honorable mention,



Nanci Gray

All-American. Her 2013 Lady Indians advanced to play in the national tournament, ICC's first trip since 1975.

In her 13 seasons at ICC, she compiled a 250-101 record, one that included six 20-plus winning seasons.

Gray's winning record doesn't tell her entire story. Beyond being a coach, she served as a friend and mentor to her players and colleagues in the basketball arena. Her players were more than just student-athletes. She taught them the skills necessary, but more than that, how to be successful off what is now the Nanci Gray Court as well. And they, as well as ICC, appreciate and will long remember her legacy.

For 31 years, Carrie Ball-Williamson drove on the Fulton Campus almost every day and saw buildings and facilities named for individuals who played a significant role in the shaping of Itawamba Community College.

On October 6, she participated in a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Carrie Ball-Williamson Recreational Center.

The legacy of the first female athletic director in ICC's history will continue not only with her name on this facility, but it is also imprinted in the lives and hearts of all she has touched.

"To say that I am honored and grateful is an understatement," Ball-Williamson said in her remarks. "I was extremely fortunate

to live my dream...on the court, as an administrator and to spend hours with my players and my ICC colleagues. It was a lot of hours because coaching

of the BEST students anywhere."

Ball-Williamson, who retired in June, became ICC's athletic director in 2002 after serving in various roles, including director of student activities and both head women's softball and basketball coach.

"Coach Ball" was described as hard worker, fair, honest and professional and an advocate of tough love, which is the best kind.

There aren't adequate adjectives to describe Carrie Ball-Williamson and the indelible mark she has left on her players, other coaches, colleagues and all of her ICC family through the years.

For years to come, her legacy will live on through the naming of this facility, a testament to her significant role in shaping Itawamba Community College.

and athletic director is not an 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. or even 5 p.m. job. I value all those hours because it was an opportunity to spend with all of you who have invested in me, and together, I believe that we have shaped the lives



Carrie Ball-Williamson



Distinguished Service Award



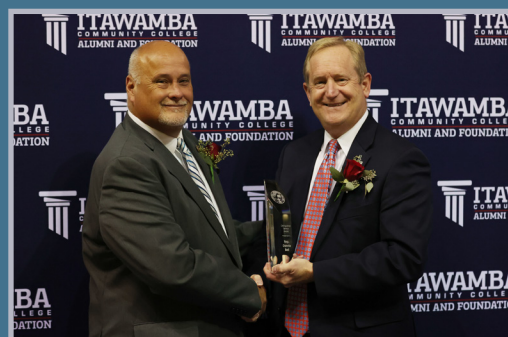
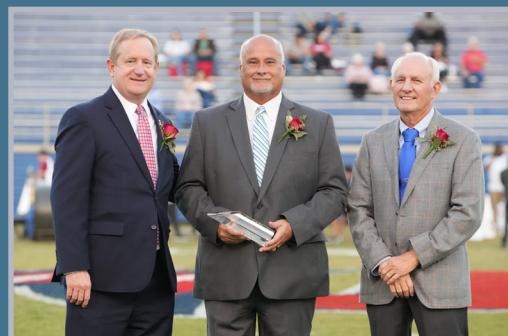
Alumnus Donnie Bell, the first recipient of Itawamba Community College's Distinguished Service Award, was elected to the Mississippi House of Representatives in 2008. He serves as chair of the workforce development committee and as a member of the agriculture, banking and financial services, universities and colleges and ways and means committees.

Rep. Bell has been instrumental in securing funding for multiple local K-12 and municipal projects as well as workforce development for the entire community college system.

He earned the associate's degree in agriculture at ICC, where he was a member of the Forestry Club, and the bachelor's degree from Mississippi State University.

His professional experience includes plant manager at International Minerals and Chemicals in Tupelo and teacher and coach.

Rep. Bell and his wife of 32 years, Nelda, have three children, Paden, a teacher at Itawamba Attendance Center; Abbie, who is employed by Three Rivers Planning and Development District; and Jeremiah, a junior at Itawamba Agricultural High School.



Over the past two years, Tupelo Coca-Cola Bottling Works has been a major partner in supporting Itawamba Community College's athletic facility improvements by providing new scoreboards for three of its programs.

In 2021, ICC's volleyball team was the beneficiary of a new scoreboard, worth almost \$5,000, for its practice area in the Carrie Ball-Williamson Recreational Center on the Fulton Campus. A recent \$20,000 donation has helped with the purchase and installation of new scoreboards for baseball at Roy Cresap Field and soccer at the ICC Soccer Complex, which opened in the fall of 2020.

The 35'x10' baseball board features an arched truss with the ICC logo and two sponsor panels, while the soccer board is 16'x5' with an arched sign with the ICC logo and one sponsor panel, according to Dr. Chad Case, ICC director of athletics.

"Itawamba Community College's Athletic Department expresses its deepest appreciation to Coca-Cola for its generous donations

to our soccer and baseball programs," Case said. "These scoreboards will enhance our baseball and soccer fields and

show our continuing commitment to excellence in athletics and enabling ICC's effort to continue to improve and upgrade our facilities."

ICC's baseball and soccer coaches expressed their gratitude as well. "We are very appreciative of Coca-Cola and its commitment to the improvement of our soccer facilities," said Caryl Vogel (men's soccer) and David Strother (women's soccer). "On behalf of our players, we would like to say thank you for this generous donation." ICC baseball coach Rick Collier echoed their appreciation, "We really appreciate Coke's generous donation. The scoreboard looks really good and adds life to the field."

"Itawamba Community College and Tupelo Coca-Cola have had an outstanding working relationship

COKE AND ICC, A WINNING COMBINATION!



over the years," said Mike Whitehurst, branch manager for Tupelo Coca-Cola. "This strong partnership comes from a longstanding commitment to ICC by Tupelo Coca-Cola, providing assistance when needs arise. As a distributor of Coca-Cola, we are grateful for the opportunities provided to us and look forward to working with ICC for years to come."

"Coca-Cola has always been an unparalleled supporter of Itawamba Community College, most specifically, its athletic program," said Dr. Brad Boggs, vice president of student services. "Over the years, their contributions have made possible improvements and innovations in programs/services which would otherwise not have been possible."



Pink Out 2022



North Mississippi Medical Center Cancer Care sponsored several Pink Out events that highlighted Breast Cancer Awareness at ICC's athletic events this past semester including football, women's soccer and volleyball.

ICC alumni and friends who are cancer survivors served as honorary coaches. Fans who attended received free lifesaving information, and the teams wore pink in memory and honor of those who have battled the disease.

Supporters of the event hope that greater knowledge will lead to earlier detection, which is associated with higher long-term survival rates.



**NORTH MISSISSIPPI
MEDICAL CENTER**
CANCER CARE



NOMINATIONS ARE BEING
ACCEPTED FOR THE
Homecoming awards
2023

ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
YOUNG ALUMNUS



SCAN HERE FOR NOMINATION FORM
DEADLINE APRIL 1

In Memoriam

Drussel Bailey, Amory, 11.25.22

Donald Alfred (Don) Baker, Amory, 11.8.22

(former member of the Board of Trustees and current member of the ICC Foundation Board)

Louie Lee Bigham, Atlanta, Ga., 7.17.22

William Foster Booth Jr., Tupelo, 9.19.22

Martha Grace Perry Bryant, New Albany, 11.1.22

Khloie Carter, Slatillo, 8.6.22

Gary Don Cayson, Fulton, 8.1.22

Jerry Clayton, Tupelo, 8.20.22

Michael L. "Mike" Foster, New Albany, 11.23.22

Willie Sherron Wood Gallop, Amory, 8.12.22

Robert Bradley "Brad" Helms, Slatillo, 11.21.22

Ivan Stanley Jones, Nettleton, 10.30.22

James B. "J.B." Markham Jr., Splunge, 10.24.22

Walter Clay McElwain, Pontocola, 11.12.22

Ellen Virginia Carter Pearson, Amory, 9.3.22

Tracie Michelle Putt, Jacksonville Beach, Fla., 8.7.22

James Terry Roberts, Plantersville, 9.2.22

Ann Rogers, Tupelo, 10.25.22 (former employee)

Johnnie Sue Long Street, Canton, 7.28.22

Richard "Whit" Whitlock, Amory, 11.12.22



The Indian Club supports Itawamba Community College’s athletics. Through its efforts, more that 200 male and female student-athletes have the opportunity not only to represent the Indians in competition, but also to receive an unparalleled education that will develop them into leaders of tomorrow.

Gifts to the Indian Club provide funds to enable our student-athletes to participate in projects above and beyond the current budgets. With reductions in federal and state budgets, the support of the fundraising efforts through alumni, friends and former athletes has become more necessary than ever.

	Spirit \$100	Pride \$250	Champion \$500	All-American
All-sports Pass*	2	4	6	
ICC Window Decal	●	●	●	Contact MichaelUpton at maupton@iccms.edu for more information.
ICC T-Shirt	●	●	●	
ICC Cap or Visor		●	●	
Indian Club Hoodie			●	

*All-Sports passes are good for all home ICC athletic events, excluding playoffs.

Help change ICC’s
student-athletes’
lives so they can
change the world!



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